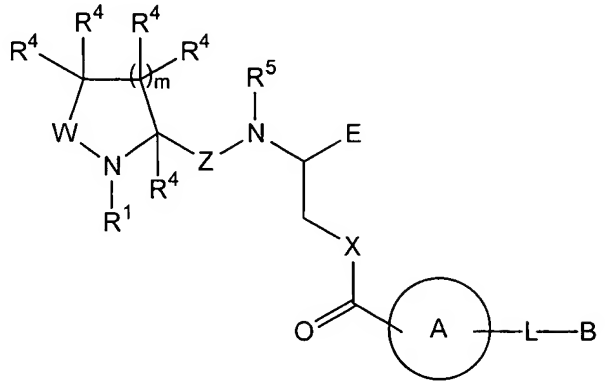
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-37. (Cancelled)

38. (New) A compound of general formula I:



I

wherein:

R^1 represents $-SO_2R^2$, $-COR^2$ or $-CH_2R^3$;

R^2 represents C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl, which can be optionally substituted with one or more groups R^a, or R^2 represents Cy, CyC_{1-4} alkyl, CyC_{2-4} alkenyl or CyC_{2-4} alkynyl, where the groups Cy can be optionally substituted with one or more groups R^b;

R^3 represents hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl, where the groups C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl and C_{2-8} alkynyl can be optionally substituted with one or more

groups R^c, or R^3 represents Cy or CyC_{1-4} alkyl, where the groups Cy can be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from R^c and R^d;

each R^4 independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, Cy or CyC_{1-4} alkyl, where the C_{1-8} alkyl group can be optionally substituted with one or more groups R^c and where the groups Cy can be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from R^c and R^d;

W represents $-CR^4R^4-$ when R^1 is $-SO_2R^2$ or $-COR^2$, or W represents -CO- when R^1 is $-CH_2R^3$;

Z represents -CO- or -CS-;

E represents $-COOR^6$, $-CONR^7R^8$ or 5-tetrazolyl;

X represents $-CH_2-$, $-NR^5-$ or -O-;

each R^5 independently represents hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^6 represents hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or aryl, where the C_{1-8} alkyl group can be optionally substituted with a group selected from C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, $-OR^g$, $-OCOR^d$, $-OCOOR^d$, $-COOR^g$ and $-NHCOR^g$ and the aryl groups can be optionally substituted with one or more groups R^b;

R^7 represents hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl or $-SO_2R^d$, where the C_{1-8} alkyl group can be optionally substituted with a group selected from C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, $-SO_2R^d$, $-COOR^g$ and $-COR^d$;

R^8 represents hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl;

or R^7 and R^8 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound can form a Het^1;

A represents C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or Het^1, which can be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo, C_{1-8} alkyl and C_{1-8} haloalkyl;

L represents $-(CR^9R^9)_n-$;

each R^9 independently represents hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

B represents:

i) C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het^1 or Het^2, which can be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo, R^b and Cy optionally substituted with one or more groups R^b; or

ii) a group selected from $-COR^e$, $-NR^fR^f$, $-OR^f$, $-SR^f$, $-S(O)_pR^e$, $-CONR^fR^f$, $-NR^fCOR^f$, $-NR^fCONR^fR^f$, $-NR^fCSNR^fR^f$, $-NR^fCOOR^e$, $-OCOR^e$, $-OCONR^fR^f$, $-NR^fSO_2R^e$ and $-SO_2NR^fR^f$;

m represents 0 or 1;

n represents 1, 2, 3 or 4;

p represents 1 or 2;

each R^a independently represents halogen, $-COR^d$, $-OR^g$, $-NR^gR^g$, $-COOR^g$, $-OCOR^d$, $-CONR^gR^g$, $-NR^gCOR^g$, $-OCONR^gR^g$ or $-NR^gCOOR^d$;

each R^b independently represents a group R^a, $-NO_2$, $-SR^g$, $-S(O)_pR^d$ or C_{1-8} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more groups R^c;

each R^c independently represents halogen, $-OR^h$ or $-NR^hR^h$;

each R^d independently represents C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or aryl, which can be optionally substituted with one or more groups R^c;

each R^e independently represents C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl, which can be optionally substituted with one or more groups R^a, or R^e represents Cy or CyC_{1-4} alkyl, where the groups Cy optionally can be substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo, Cy* and R^b, and where the groups Cy* can be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo and R^b;

each R^f independently represents hydrogen or any of the meanings described for R^e;

or two groups R^f placed on the same nitrogen atom can be attached to each other to form together with said nitrogen atom a Het^1 which optionally can be substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo, Cy and R^b, where the groups Cy can be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo and R^b;

each R^g independently represents hydrogen or any of the meanings described for R^d;

or two groups R^g placed on the same nitrogen atom can be attached to each other to form together with said nitrogen atom Het^1 which optionally can be substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo, Cy and R^b, where the groups Cy optionally can be substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo and R^b;

each R^h independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or aryl, where the groups C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl and aryl optionally can be substituted with one or more halogen atoms;

Cy and Cy* independently represent aryl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, Het^1 or Het^2;

aryl in the above definitions represents phenyl or naphthyl;

Het^1 in the above definitions represents a saturated or unsaturated non-aromatic 5- to 7-membered monocyclic ring containing from one to four heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, which optionally can be fused to a phenyl, naphthyl or Het^2 ring, and which is chemically stable and obtainable through chemical synthesis; and

Het^2 in the above definitions represents an aromatic 5- to 7-membered monocyclic or 9- to 11-membered bicyclic ring, which contains from one to four heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, and which is chemically stable and obtainable through chemical synthesis;

or a salt, solvate or prodrug thereof.

39. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein R^1 represents $-SO_2R^2$.

40. (New) A compound according to claim 38 or 39 wherein R^2 represents aryl optionally substituted with one or more groups R^b.

41. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein all the groups R^4 represent hydrogen.

42. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein R^5 represents hydrogen.

43. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein W represents $-CR^4R^4-$.

44. (New) A compound according to claim 43 wherein W represents $-CH_2-$.

45. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein Z represents -CO-.

46. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein E represents -$COOR^6$.

47. (New) A compound according to claim 46 wherein E represents -COOH.

48. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein m represents 1.

49. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein X represents -NH-.

50. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein X represents -CH_2-.

51. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein X represents -O-.

52. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein A represents piperidine or piperazine.

53. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein L represents -$(CH_2)_n$-.

54. (New) A compound according to claim 53 wherein L represents methylene or ethylene.

55. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein B represents Het^1 or Het^2 optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo, R^b and Cy optionally substituted with one or more groups R^b.

56. (New) A compound according to claim 55 wherein B represents imidazopyridine optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo, R^b and Cy optionally substituted with one or more groups R^b.

57. (New) A compound according to claim 38 wherein B represents -NR^fR^f, -OR^f, -NR^fCOR^f, -$NR^fCONR^fR^f$, -$NR^fCSNR^fR^f$, -NR^fCOOR^e or -$OCONR^fR^f$.

58. (New) A compound according to claim 57 wherein B represents -$OCONR^fR^f$.

59. (New) A compound according to claim 58 wherein both groups R^f are attached to each other to form together with the nitrogen atom a Het^1, which optionally can be substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo, Cy and R^b, wherein the groups Cy optionally can be substituted with one or more groups selected from oxo and R^b.

60. (New) A compound according to claim 38 selected from:

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-oxooxazolidin-3-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2-oxopyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(1-oxoisoindolin-2-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2-ethyl-5,7-dimethylimidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-[4-(2-methylimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-oxo-5-[4-[(2-oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-phenylimidazol-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-[4-[[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)benzimidazol-2-yl]methyl]piperazin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-pyridylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]-2-[[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-oxo-5-[4-(1-oxoisoindolin-2-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-2-[[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-thienylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]-2-[[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-[4-[(2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yl)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(3-methylbutanoylamino)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-[4-[(*N'-tert*-butylureido)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(isobutoxycarbonylamino)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-oxo-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino-5-[4-[[4-(trifluoromethyl)pyrimidin-2-yl]aminomethyl]piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(isopropylsulfonylamino)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(*N'*-isopropylthioureido)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-(2-ethyl-5,7-dimethylimidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-yl)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-[2-(pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyloxy)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(4-methylpiperazin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[[(dimethylaminoacetyl)amino]methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-(diethylamino)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-[2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-[(2-methoxyethyl)aminocarbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(4-morpholinylcarbonylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(1-pyrrolidinylcarbonylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(1-piperidylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[[*N*-ethyl-*N*-(trifluoroacetyl)amino]methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonylamino]methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(4-pyridylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(*N*-ethyl-*N*-isobutoxycarbonylamino)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2-methylimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(1-pyrrolylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2,5-dimethylpyrrol-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-(dimethylamino)ethyl]piperazin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2-ethylimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-oxo-2,3-dihydroimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2-isopropylaminoimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(diethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-(2-methylimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionate;

methyl *(2S)*-3-[[4-(1-piperidylmethyl)piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]-2-[*N*-tosyl-L-prolyl]aminopropionate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[4-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-ylcarbonyloxy]propionate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-[4-[2-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-5-[4-[(diethylaminocarbonyloxy)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonyloxymethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(4-pyridyloxymethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-[4-(4-methylpiperazin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-5-[4-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoate;

(2S)-5-[4-[(1-oxoisoindolin-2-yl)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(3-methylbutanoylamino)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-[4-[(*N'-tert*-butylureido)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(isobutoxycarbonylamino)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(*N'*-isopropylthioureido)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-(2-ethyl-5,7-dimethylimidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-yl)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(isopropylsulfonylamino)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-[2-(pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyloxy)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-oxo-5-[4-[(2-oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-phenylimidazol-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-oxo-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino-5-[4-[[4-(trifluoromethyl)pyrimidin-2-yl]aminomethyl]piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2-ethyl-5,7-dimethylimidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-[(2-methoxyethyl)aminocarbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(4-morpholinylcarbonylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(1-pyrrolidinylcarbonylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-5-[4-[(diethylaminocarbonyloxy)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-oxooxazolidin-3-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2-oxopyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2-methylimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-[4-(2-methylimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-[4-[[1-(2-ethoxyethyl)benzimidazol-2-yl]methyl]piperazin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-pyridylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]-2-[[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-oxo-5-[4-(1-oxoisoindolin-2-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-2-[[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-thienylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]-2-[[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-[4-[(3-carboxypropionylamino)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[[1-tosyl-L-prolyl]amino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(4-methylpiperazin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(1-pyrrolylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2,5-dimethylpyrrol-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-(dimethylamino)ethyl]piperazin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2-ethylimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-oxo-2,3-dihydroimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(2-isopropylaminoimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-(diethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-(2-methylimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[[(dimethylaminoacetyl)amino]methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-(diethylamino)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-[2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[2-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(1-piperidylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(ethylamino)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonylamino]methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[4-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-ylcarbonyloxy]propionic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(4-pyridylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-[4-[2-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonyloxymethyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(4-pyridyloxymethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-[4-(4-methylpiperazin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-5-[4-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxo-2-[1-tosyl-L-prolylamino]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-3-[[4-(1-piperidylmethyl)piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]-2-[*N*-tosyl-L-prolyl]aminopropionic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-[4-[(*N*-ethyl-*N*-isobutoxycarbonylamino)methyl]piperidin-1-yl]-5-oxopentanoic acid;

methyl (2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[(4-methylpiperidin-1-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[[4-(ethoxycarbonyl)piperazin-1-yl]carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[[4-(4-pyridyl)piperazin-1-yl]carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[(cis-2,6-dimethylmorpholin-4-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionate;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[(4-methylhomopiperazin-1-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionic acid;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-(2-ethylimidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-[2-(4-phenylpiperazin-1-ylcarbonyloxy)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

methyl *(2S)*-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-propylimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoate;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-[2-(4-phenylpiperazin-1-ylcarbonyloxy)ethyl]piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[(4-methylpiperidin-1-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolylamino]-5-oxo-5-[4-(2-propylimidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pentanoic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[[4-(ethoxycarbonyl)piperazin-1-yl]carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[[4-(4-pyridyl)piperazin-1-yl]carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionic acid;

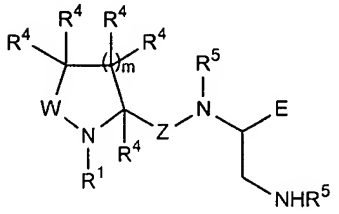
(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-[2-[(cis-2,6-dimethylmorpholin-4-yl)carbonyloxy]ethyl]piperidin -1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionic acid;

(2S)-2-[1-(3,5-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-L-prolyl]amino-3-[[4-(2-ethylimidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-ylmethyl)piperidin-1-ylcarbonyl]amino]propionic acid;

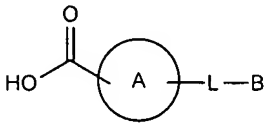
or a salt, solvate or prodrug thereof.

61. (New) A process for preparing a compound of formula **I** according to claim 38, which comprises:

(a) when in a compound of formula **I** X represents -NR^5-, reacting an amine of formula **II** with an acid of formula **III**



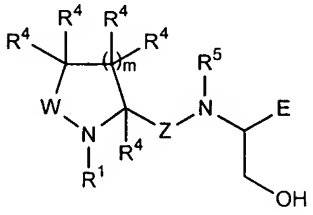
II



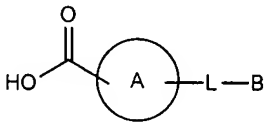
III

wherein R^1, R^4, R^5, W, Z, E, A, L, B and m have the meaning described in claim 38; or

(b) when in a compound of formula **I** X represents -O-, reacting an alcohol of formula **IV** with an acid of formula **III**



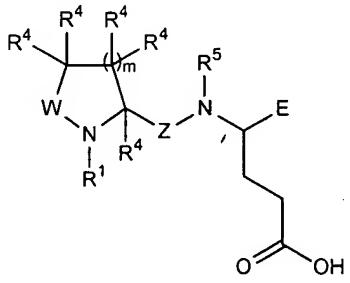
IV



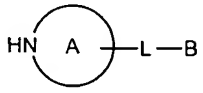
III

wherein R^1, R^4, R^5, W, Z, E, A, L, B and m have the meaning described in claim 38; or

(c) when in a compound of formula **I** X represents $-CH_2-$ and A is bound to the carbonyl group through a nitrogen atom, reacting an acid of formula **V** with an amine of formula **VI**



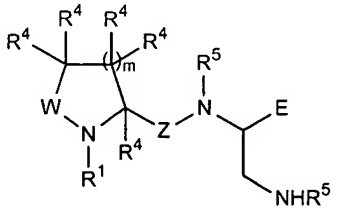
V



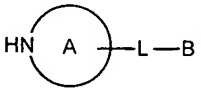
VI

wherein R^1, R^4, R^5, W, Z, E, A, L, B and m have the meaning described in claim 38; or

(d) when in a compound of formula **I** X represents $-NR^5-$ and A is bound to the carbonyl group through a nitrogen atom, reacting an amine of formula **II** previously activated with an activating agent suitable for the preparation of ureas with an amine of formula **VI**

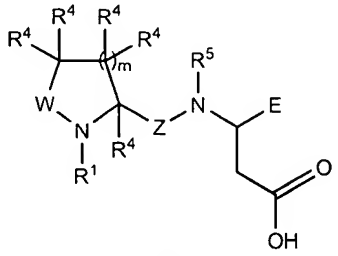


II

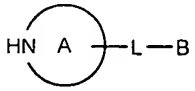


VI

wherein R^1, R^4, R^5, W, Z, E, A, L, B and m have the meaning described in claim 38, or reacting an amine of formula **VI** previously activated with an activating agent suitable for the preparation of ureas with an amine of formula **II**, or alternatively reacting a compound of formula **V'** previously activated with an azide suitable for a Curtius rearrangement with an amine of formula **VI**

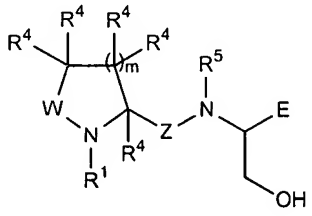


V'

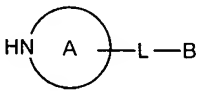


VI

wherein R^1, R^4, R^5, W, Z, E, A, L, B and m have the meaning described in claim 38; or (e) when in a compound of formula I X represents -O- and A is bound to the carbonyl group through a nitrogen atom, reacting an alcohol of formula **IV** previously activated with an activating agent suitable for the preparation of carbamates with an amine of formula **VI**



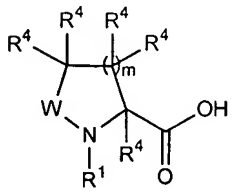
IV



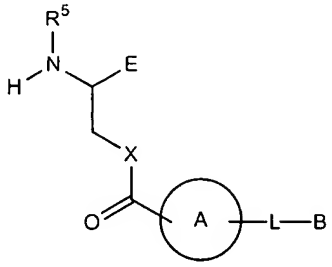
VI

wherein R^1, R^4, R^5, W, Z, E, A, L, B and m have the meaning described in claim 38; or

(f) when in a compound of formula **I** Z represents -CO-, reacting an acid of formula **VII** with an amine of formula **XVII**



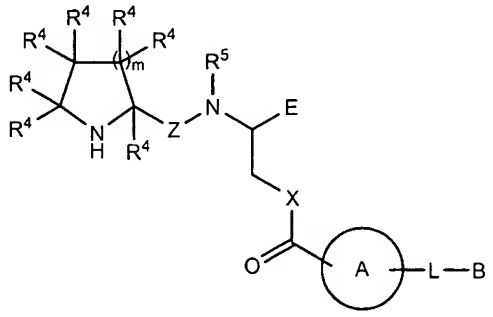
VII



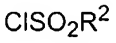
XVII

wherein R^1, R^4, R^5, W, E, X, A, L, B and m have the meaning described above; or

(g) when in a compound of formula **I** W represents $-CR^4R^4-$ and R^1 represents $-SO_2R^2$, reacting a compound of formula **XVIII** with a sulfonyl chloride of formula **IX**



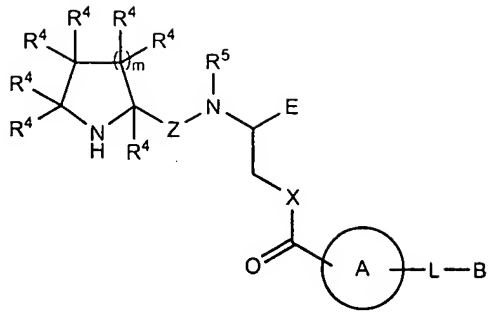
XVIII



IX

wherein R^2, R^4, R^5, Z, E, X, A, L, B and m have the meaning described in claim 38; or

(h) when in a compound of formula **I** W represents $-CR^4R^4-$ and R^1 represents $-COR^2$, reacting a compound of formula **XVIII** with an acid of formula **X**

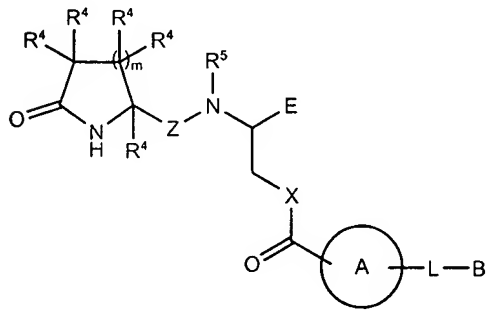


R^2COOH

XVIII **X**

wherein R^2, R^4, R^5, Z, E, X, A, L, B and m have the meaning described in claim 38; or

(i) when in a compound of formula **I** W represents -CO- and R^1 represents -CH_2R^3, reacting a compound of formula **XIX** with a compound of formula **XI**

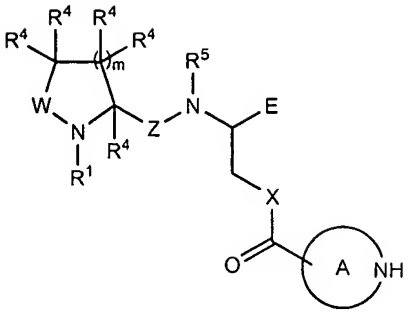


R^3-CH_2-D

XIX **XI**

wherein R^2, R^4, R^5, Z, E, X, A, L, B and m have the meaning described in claim 38 and D represents a good leaving group; or

(j) when in a compound of formula **I** A is bound to the -L-B moiety through a ring nitrogen atom, alkylating the secondary amine of a compound of formula **XX** with a compound of formula **XIV**



D-L-B

XX **XIV**

wherein R^1, R^4, R^5, W, Z, E, X, A, L, B and m have the meaning described in claim 38 and D represents a good leaving group; or

(k) transforming, in one or a plurality of steps, a compound of formula I into another compound of formula I; and

(l) if desired, after the above steps, reacting a compound of formula I with an acid or a base to give the corresponding addition salt.

62. (New) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises an effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 38 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or prodrug thereof and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

63. (New) A method for the treatment or prevention of a disease mediated by integrins α_4 which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 38 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or prodrug thereof.

64. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the disease mediated by integrins α_4 is selected from inflammatory diseases, immune diseases, autoimmune diseases, degenerative disorders, tumor metastasis and ischemia-reperfusion disorders.

65. (New) A method for the treatment or prevention of an inflammatory disease, immune disease or autoimmune disease which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 38 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or prodrug thereof.

66. (New) The method of claim 65, wherein the inflammatory, immune or autoimmune disease is selected from diseases with an allergic component, inflammatory diseases with an autoimmune component, inflammatory bowel disease, inflammatory processes having an alloimmune origin caused by transplants or rejections, inflammatory processes that develop as a consequence of blood vessel revascularization treatments, encephalomyelitis, hepatitis, bronchitis, vasculitis and atherosclerosis.

67. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the disease with an allergic component is selected from asthma, allergic rhinitis, allergic dermatitis and allergic conjunctivitis.

68. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the inflammatory disease with an autoimmune component is selected from rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, multiple sclerosis, psoriasis and diabetes.

69. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the inflammatory bowel disease is selected from Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

70. (New) A method for the treatment or prevention of a degenerative disorder which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 38 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or prodrug thereof.

71. (New) The method of claim 70, wherein the degenerative disorder is selected from Alzheimer's disease and arthrosis.

72. (New) A method for the treatment or prevention of a tumor metastasis which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 38 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or prodrug thereof.

73. (New) A method for the treatment or prevention of an ischemia-reperfusion disorder which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount

of a compound of formula I according to claim 38 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or prodrug thereof.

74. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein the ischemia-reperfusion disorder is selected from acute coronary diseases and stroke.